

Message Text

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ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 OMB-01 SAJ-01 /055 W
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R 100911Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO AMCONGEN HONG KONG

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3657

C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 7298

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CGEN, CH, TW, UK

SUBJECT: LAU MUI LAM, PROTECTING POWER

REF: A) HONG KONG 2781; B) STATE 108925

1. EMBASSY RECENTLY RECEIVED LETTER FROM SUBJECT'S BROTHER, LAU CHUN LOY, WHO IS RESIDENT IN HONG KONG AT WAH KWONG SHIPPING CO., LTD., BANK OF CANTON BUILDING, 20TH FLOOR, DES VOEUX ROAD CENTRAL, HONG KONG. LETTER STATED SUBJECT CONVICTED BY MILITARY COURT FOR MEMBERSHIP IN COMMUNIST PARTY OF INDONESIA AND SENTENCED TO FIVE YEARS IMPRISONMENT. TAIWAN SUPREME COURT HEARD SUBJECT'S APPEAL JULY 31, 1974 AND ORDERED A RE-TRIAL ON GROUNDS EVIDENCE PRESENTED WAS NOT SUFFICIENT TO CONVICT.

2. REMAINDER OF LAU'S LETTER READS LIKE LEGAL BRIEF CITING BRITISH LEGAL PRECEDENTS AS ARGUMENTS AGAINST VERDICT AND REQUESTING EMBASSY INTERVENTION ON SUBJECT'S BEHALF. IN VIEW PARA 2, REF B, EMBASSY RETURNED LETTER TO LAU CHUN LOY SUGGESTING HE MAKE HIS VIEWS KNOWN DIRECTLY TO ROC AUTHORITIES. COPIES OF LAU'S LETTER AND OUR REPLY WILL BE POUCHED TO CONGEN AND DEPT.

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3. EMBASSY HAS INFORMALLY REQUESTED MINISTRY OF FOREIGN

AFFAIRS FOR STATUS REPORT SUBJECT'S CASE BUT NO REPLY
RECEIVED TO DATE. WE BELIEVE BROTHER'S STATEMENTS IN PARA
1 ABOVE ARE PROBABLY ACCURATE BUT WILL CONFIRM AS SOON AS
WE RECEIVE DEFINITIVE REPLY FROM ROC AUTHORITIES.

4. BASED ON PAST EXPERIENCE, SUBJECT MUST REMAIN IN
CUSTODY AWAITING NEW TRIAL. WE BELIEVE THAT DESPITE
LEGAL MANEUVERING, SUBJECT'S CHANCES FOR REVERSAL OF
GUILTY VERDICT ARE VERY SLIGHT. AT BEST, RETRIAL MIGHT
RESULT IN REDUCTION OF ORIGINAL FIVE YEAR SENTENCE.
POPPL

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Message Attributes

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